

DEC meeting of November 28, 2024.

Present: the Rev. Deacon Peter Clarke, Gail Shewchuk, the Rev. Don Thompson, the Rev. Rose Howell, Brian Vance, Cheryl Anderson, Bishop David Greenwood, Tammy McKeachnie, the Rev. Fr. Leon Cadsap, Jamie McIlvenna, Candace Mahaffey

Regrets: Stan Berry

Absent: Jamie McIlvenna

Meeting opened with prayer at 7 pm by Bishop David

Adoption of the Agenda: approved by consensus

Minutes from previous meeting

Motion: Don / Rose: approve DEC minutes from November 5 2024 as circulated.
Carried unanimously.

GUEST INPUT

The Rev. Canon Terry Leer was unable to make the meeting, so Bishop David read a letter on his behalf.

DECISIONS:

1. Financial Donations to Specific Parishes
Management Committee decided not to grant any funds to parishes at this point in time. Requested the bishop to discuss with Grimshaw-Berwyn as to their financial situation – the report says they have a \$6000 deficit, but persons are hearing anecdotally that they are okay.
2. Proposed 2025 Budget including Parish FSBA and anticipated insurance cost increase. Insurance underwriter (Ecclesiastical) has agreed to limit Insurance Premiums increase for 2025 to 10%. This does NOT allow for increase in building costs over the year. Discussion tabled until end of meeting.
3. Centralized Parish Finances
MOTION: Don / Cheryl The Diocese offer Centralized Parish Financial Administration to parishes as an optional offering.
- Carried unanimously
4. Solar Power for parishes
 - a. Encourage parishes to become more efficient in their energy usage
 - b. Solar panels are improving in efficiency and cost over time
 - c. Not doing diocesan-wide gives us more flexibility

- d. A pilot project of an enthusiastic parish would be best – other parishes need time to consider this
 - e. The Solar Power company involved seems to be inflating their ROI.
MOTION: Brian / Rose: Encourage Athabasca to proceed with an application for an Anglican Foundation grant (category ‘B’) for this purpose, asking for 3 independent quotes if possible for review by Management Committee. – carried unanimously.
5. St. James’ Deanery Request
- a. This type of request is more probable going forward.
 - b. Want to express our thanks and admiration for the Cathedral turning their finances around so significantly.
 - c. DEC would like a conversation with the Cathedral Parish when they feel they are ready to have a new incumbent and Dean come into the parish, regarding moving assistance.
MOTION: Don / Leon: After much prayerful discussion, DEC does not believe the cathedral’s request is the best way to address this financial issue, so the request is declined.
8 in favour. 2 abstentions. Carried.
6. St. Thomas’ Fort McMurray request for Anglican Foundation assistance (backflow prevention valve). DEC recognizes the remainder of the funds will probably be diocesan-funded.
MOTION: Cheryl / Don. DEC approve St. Thomas’ applying to the Anglican Foundation for the installation of a backflow valve in the church.
9 in favour, 1 abstention, carried.
7. Parish Financing Requests
- a. Athabasca Rectory
Maintenance Committee tabled this item to the next meeting.
 - b. St. Thomas’ Rectory
Bishop David authorized repairs to the Rectory which came in significantly more than he anticipated. The diocese has paid this amount.
MOTION: Cheryl / Gail. The funds spent on the St. Thomas’ Rectory repairs (around \$15,000) come out of the Property Replacement Fund – carried unimously.
Note: upfront quotes should be received before work commences on items. Also, policy should be followed.
 - c. Fort Chip yard maintenance
Fort Chip have ~\$1500 in their operation fund.
Motion: Don / Peter Fort Chip yard cleanup be paid out of their operating fund, with the remainder out of the Diocesan Operations (General) Fund.
■ Carried unanimously.

UPDATES:

- 8. Boyle Worship Centre.

Building has been deconsecrated and sold (possession date of Nov. 21st), with a number of items moved to Lac La Biche.

DEC commended Brian for the property committee's work on this.

9. St. Andrew's Lac La Biche

Final Inspection planned for Nov. 29. A deficiency list will be created, which will be the trigger point to pay the final installment and also trigger the 60-day lien hold-back.

Open house on Saturday Nov 30, Service on Sunday at 1 pm.

10. Diocesan Advertising

What costs? Diocesan-wide pictures / videos? (Bishop to follow up)

11. Clergy Conference, Lay Conference

Hoping to have Clergy conference in Jan-Feb, Lay conference sometime in March. Bishop working on.

12. Will Power (Legacy Giving)

Anglican Foundation not recommending the Will Power organization for Legacy Giving.

INTRODUCED:

13. Wabasca Roof repairs (to both Worship Centre and Rectory) are estimated around \$30,000. Parish has no funds.

14. Open Doors Canada

Discuss next meeting.

15. Instructional Materials

Table to next meeting. Look at Sept 23 package (list of educational materials). Wish to encourage Lay Reader education.

16. Moving Fund

MOTION: Don / Cheryl; that the Diocese establish a Clergy Moving Fund with \$10,000 per year being transferred into it from the General Fund. The Clergy Moving Fund would have a maximum of \$100,000. Parishes wishing to access this Fund must consult with their Regional Dean and the Diocesan Bishop, with the request being submitted to the Management Committee for a recommendation to the Diocesan Executive Committee (DEC). The DEC must approve any expenditures from this Fund before the expenditure is made. This request for financial assistance would be part of the Appointment Process, Regulation 11 step 1.

- Carried unanimously.

DEC requested the Bishop convey to the cathedral that we feel we have heard their concerns, and responded to it in this way.

17. BUDGET

MOTION: Don / Chery; That DEC approve a 2025 Budget including the revised FSBA of around \$146,000 and \$10,000 annual transferring to a Clergy Moving Fund, otherwise in sync with what was presented at Nov. 5 2024.

- Carried unanimously

DEC expressed their gratitude to the treasurer for his work creating the proposed budget.

Focus Area: None given for Nov 28 meeting.

Next meeting: Dec 19 @ 7 pm.

9:37 pm – Meeting closed with prayer